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BLACKROD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1965

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BLACKROD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

P U B L I C H E A L T H C O M M I T T E E

Chairman:- Councillor T. Booth

Members:- Councillors W. Chadwick, C. C. Cutler,
J. Foster, J. Jolley J.P., J.K. Jolley, J. Marshall,
F. Makinson and L. Watkinson.

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Public Health Officer of the Authority

Medical Officer of Health

E. Taylor, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Divisional Health Office,
Leigh Road, LEIGH.

Telephone: Leigh 73227/8/9

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Public Health Inspector

J. F. Wood, M.A.P.H.I.

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Also Divisional Medical Officer,
Divisional Health Committee No. 11
Lancashire County Council

Divisional School Medical Officer

Lancashire County Council

Council Offices,

BLACKROD,

Mr. Chorley,

To the Chairman and Members of
the Blackrod Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the annual report
on the health of the District for the year 1965.

The infant mortality rate is often taken as a realistic index of the well being of a community. A figure of 8.9 per 1,000 live births is a most satisfying one and could only be bettered by there being no infant deaths at all. Of course when dealing with such small actual numbers, rates of this type are liable to gross fluctuations, but this cannot detract from a very happy position.

The crude death rate was low and the adjusted rate which is comparable with the national rate is also better than average.

The introduction of a filtered water supply and an improvement in the sewage system and its disposal are both overdue, but are held up only by various legal and financial limitations.

I am much indebted to the help and co-operation I have received from my fellow Officers during the year and the understanding shown by yourselves.

Yours faithfully,

E. TAYLOR

Medical Officer of Health

General Library

University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, Michigan

to prevent the market of art off
Almond from the world's best art

exhibition

now or before art criticism is possible and I
hope you will not let it be so

misunderstand me that you think I am
one of those who are continually trying to
get rid of art criticism and art exhibition out
of the world. I am not so foolish as that. I
am not so much interested in art criticism and
exhibition as I am in the public welfare and
the public good.

But I am not so much interested in art
criticism and exhibition as I am in the public welfare and
the public good.

I am not so much interested in art
criticism and exhibition as I am in the public welfare and
the public good.

I am not so much interested in art
criticism and exhibition as I am in the public welfare and
the public good.

Yours truly,

John D.

At last he was able to find

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	2,392.4 acres
Population Census 1961	3,600
Population Estimated mid 1965	4,320
No. of inhabited dwellings at end of 1965	1,460
Rateable Value	£104,418
Sun represented by a penny rate	£410

Social conditions - No material change

BIRTHS	Total	Males	Females
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Live Births:

Legitimate	107	57	50
Illegitimate	5	3	2
TOTAL	112	60	52

Live birth rate per 1,000 15.9

Still Births:

Legitimate	2	Nil	2
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	2	Nil	2

Still Birth rate per 1,000 total births 17.5

Total Births: 114. Males: 60. Females: 54.

DEATHS

Infant Deaths (under 1 year)	Total	Male	Female
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Legitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil
Illegitimate	1	Nil	1
TOTAL	1	Nil	1

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births ..	8.9
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	Nil
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..	8.9
Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ..	Nil
Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ..	Nil
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total births ..	17.5
Mortality Rates per 1,000 estimated population :-	
Total (All forms)	
Crude Rate	9.7
Adjusted Rate	12.5
Respiratory T.B. ..	Nil
Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	1.85

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1965	Males	Females	Total
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	2	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	-	2	2
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	1	2	3
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	3	6	9
Coronary Disease - Angina	1	1	2
Other Heart Disease	6	-	6
Other Circulatory Disease	2	4	6
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Bronchitis	4	1	5
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	-	1	1
Other Defined & Ill-defined Diseases	1	-	1
	—	—	—
Total all causes	22	20	42

Transferable deaths included in the above.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Ambulance Service Tel. Swinton 4343

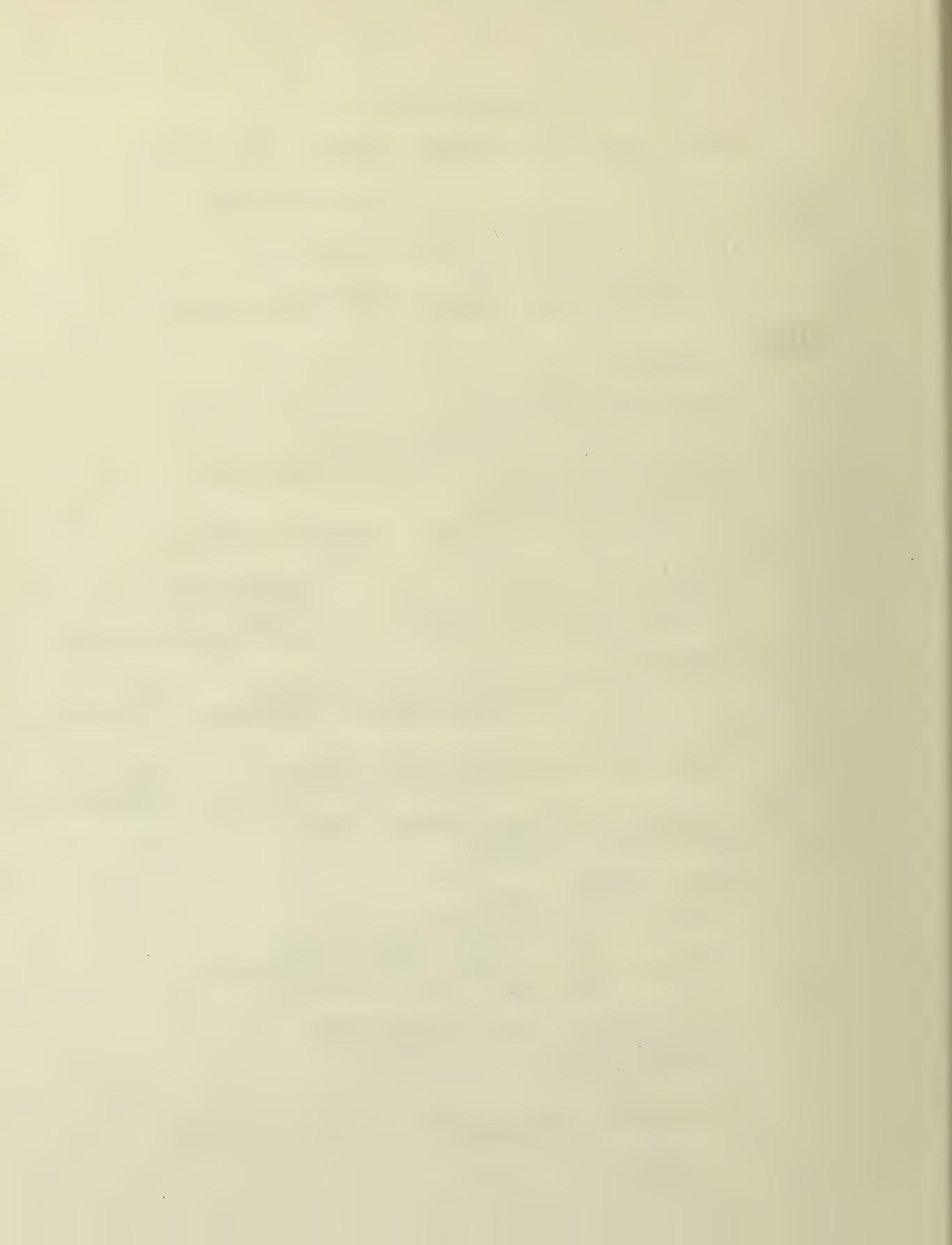
Care of Children - Children Act 1948
Children's Committee, Lancashire County Council

Area Children's Officer - Mr. K. R. Harding
Ashfield Park Drive, Standish. Tel. Standish 3147

Clinics

1. Ante Natal and Post Natal
164 New Street, Blackrod.
Thursdays 9-10 a.m. Friday 2-4 p.m.
2. Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis and Small Pox Immunisation.
164 New Street, Blackrod
1st and 3rd Tuesday in month - 1.30 p.m. - 3-30 p.m.
3. Child Welfare
164 New Street, Blackrod. Doctor Present
1st and 3rd Thursdays in month 2-4 p.m.
1st and 3rd Tuesday in month 1.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.
4. Ophthalmic
School Health Clinic, Jones Street, Horwich) By
Market Street, Westhoughton) appointment
5. Orthopaedic
School Health Clinic, Johns Street, Horwich) By
Market Street, Westhoughton) appointment
6. Tuberculosis Dispensary and Chest Clinic
Darley Street, Farnworth.
7. Venereal Disease
 - i) Civic Centre, Bolton
Males - Mon. to Fri. 9-30 to 12-30 p.m.
Mon., Wed., Fri. 4-30 to 7 p.m.
Females - Tues., Thurs., Sat. 9-30 to 11-30 a.m.
Mon., Wed., Fri. 4-30 to 7 p.m.
 - ii) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan
Males - Fri. 2-0 p.m. to 6-30 p.m.
Females - Wed. 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Urgent Cases : Mon. to Fri. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sats.
9 to 11-30 a.m., 4-30 p.m. to 7 p.m.



Convalescence.

Under arrangements made by Lancashire County Council.
Apply Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.

Convalescent Treatment.

Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board.

Health Visiting Service.

Health Visitors/School Nurses are employed in the District
by Lancashire County Council.

Home Help Service

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council.
Apply to Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.

Home Nursing Service

District Nurses are employed in the district by the
Lancashire County Council.

Hospitals.

Bolton Royal Infirmary; Bolton District General Hospital,
Farnworth; Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan; Chorley
and District General Hospital.

Laboratory Facilities

Regional Hospital Laboratories at Bolton and Wigan Infiraries.

Maternity Homes

'Haslam,' 'Havercroft,' and 'Heaton Grange' Maternity Homes,
Bolton, Bolton District General Hospital and Billinge Hospital.

Midwifery Service

Domiciliary midwives employed by the Lancashire County Council
practice in the district.

Nursing Homes

Newlands Nursing Home, Bolton.
Christopher Nursing Home, Wigan.

Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children

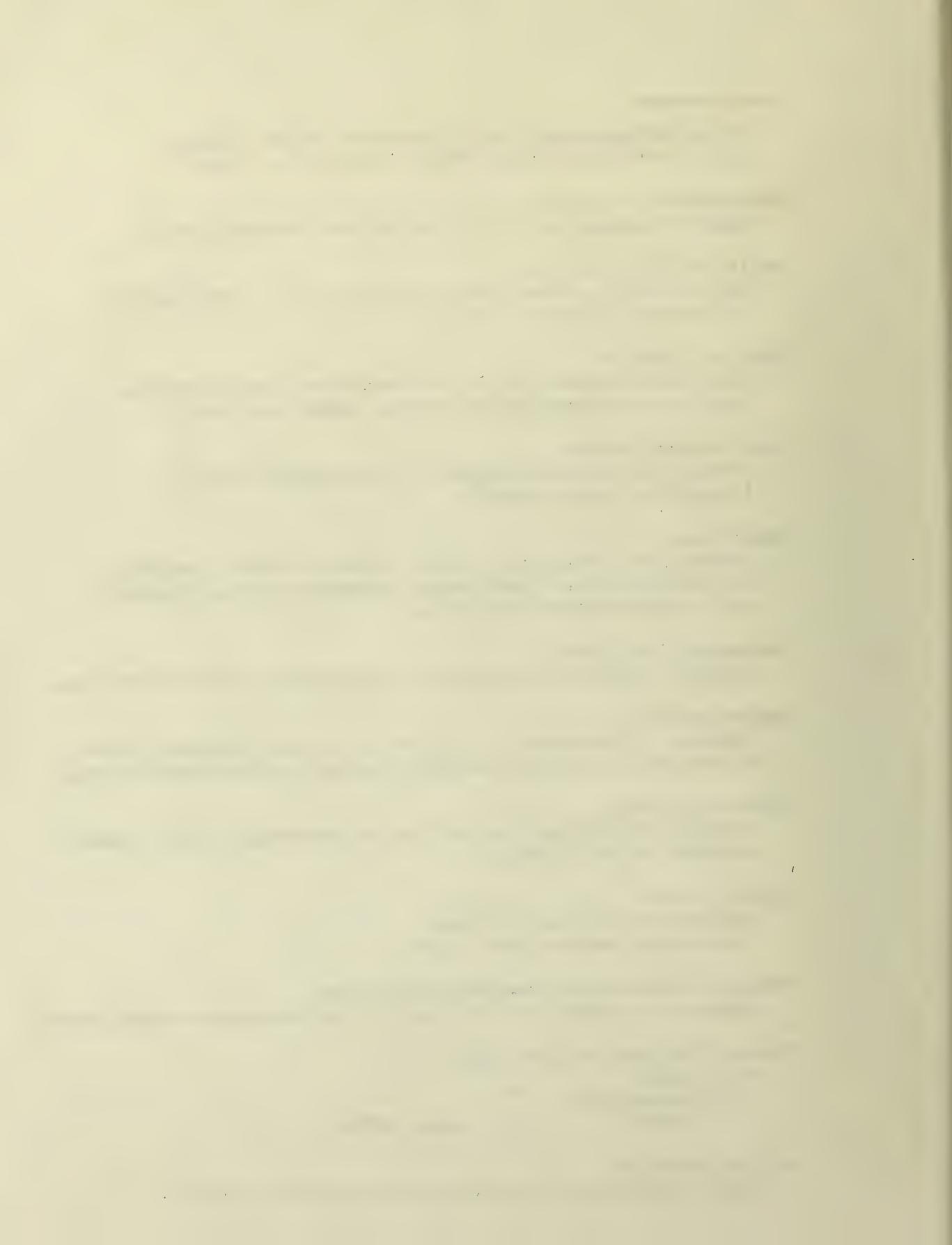
Provision for their care is made by the Lancashire County Council

Council for Moral Welfare Work,

Miss Rigby,
24 Acresfield,
Bolton. Tel: Bolton 26524

Welfare Services

Under arrangements made by Lancashire County Council.



Apply to Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.
Residential accommodation at Atherleigh Grange,
Hourigan House, Leigh, and Winifred Kettle House,
Westhoughton.

X - Ray Facilities.

Available at Bolton Royal Infirmary and the Wigan Infirmary.
Special facilities for Chest X-Ray at the Hospital Board's
Dispensaries and Chest Clinics.

S E C T I O N C

S A N I T A R Y C I R C U M S T A N C E S O F T H E A R E A

Water Supply - The Urban District have their own water undertaking and the supply is obtained from a catchment area of some 170 acres of land owned and controlled by the Council.

The surface water and water from land springs is stored in a 20 million gallon impounding reservoir. The catchment area is mainly moorland in character and is situated in the Horwich Urban District.

The undertaking is adequate for the needs of the district at the present time, and bulk supplies are provided to the Adlington Urban District and to the Makerfield Water Board. All houses in the district are provided with water from public mains.

There were 19 samples of water taken for bacteriological examination. The result of these was as follows.

No. taken: 19 No. satisfactory: 19 No. unsatisfactory: Nil

Continuous chlorination is carried out to the water as it enters into the supply mains at the Council's Reservoir.

It was necessary to restrict the use of hose pipes and the washing of flags during the summer period to conserve supplies.

Drainage and Sewerage - An additional 67 new dwellings have been connected into the sewers and this has been the only extension to the sewer system. It is hoped that consent will be obtained shortly for the improvement and renewal of sewers and for the treatment of the effluent at the Horwich Urban District Works.

Public Cleansing - There are 1,725 refuse bins to be emptied each week, and a weekly collection has been maintained over the year with the exception of one week in July and September when the workmen had their annual holidays. Approximately 1,700 tons of domestic refuse was collected and disposed of.

Refuse bins for domestic properties are supplied by the Council as a charge on the rate fund.

The refuse is disposed of by tipping on low lying agricultural land which is being re-levelled and graded to adjoining field level.

One refuse collecting vehicle of a dual-up type, having a 12 cu. yd. body fitted is used for refuse collection and three loaders and one driver are regularly employed on this work.

Sanitary Inspections - During the year some 196 complaints relating to sanitary matters including refuse collection were received. Throughout the year, 610 premises were visited for all purposes, five informal notices being served and fourteen Statutory notices served.

Factories Acts 1937 to 1959 - In accordance with the provisions of Section 128 (3) of the Factories Act 1937, the Medical Officer of Health is required to report specifically on the administration of matters under Part 1 and 8 of this Act, which are administered by the District Council.

PART I OF THE ACT

INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	7	7	1	-
iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	1	1	-	-
	8	8	1	-

Cases in which DEFECTS were found

See overleaf

Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remidied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	Nil				
Overcrowding (S.2.)	Nil				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	Nil				
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	Nil				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	Nil				
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)	Nil				
a) Insufficient b) Unsuitable or defective c) Not separate for sexes.					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work).	Nil				
Total	Nil				

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Shops - Shops were inspected under the shops Act and 26 inspections were carried out for this purpose.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 - The following types of premises have been registered under the above Act.

Class of Premises	No. Registered	No. of Persons Employed	
		Male	Female
Offices	3	5	-
Retail Shops	10	4	22
Wholesale Departments	1	3	-
Catering Establishments	3	2	5
Canteens	-	-	-
Fuel Storage Premises	-	-	-
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TOTAL	17	14	27
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Sixteen premises have been visited and 16 inspections made for the purposes of the Act.

Smoke Abatement - Recordings of the measurement of smoke and sulphur dioxide have been taken over the year from a station set up at the Council Offices. The following table shows the average daily and the highest daily over the months for 1964. The measurements are in micro-grammes which are the small particles remaining suspended in the air and capable of being inhaled. The heavier particles generally fall to the ground.

1964	Smoke Particles		Sulphur Dioxide	
	Average	Highest Day Recorded	Average	Highest Day Recorded
January	287	793	295	926
February	237	553	204	457
March	-	413	-	533
April	No readings - Plant faulty			
May	-	284	-	421
June	52	121	66	155
July	29	68	43	122
August	40	93	77	233
September	53	151	119	318
October	-	371	-	573
November	217	639	262	1088
December	226	609	257	616

Several treatments at the Council's refuse tip have been carried out and the Council's sewers have also been treated.

S E C T I O N D

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply - Twenty-five samples of milk have been taken and submitted for bacteriological examination, all samples were reported Negative for Tuberculosis.

Food Hygiene - All shops and food preparing premises have been visited during the year. General Conditions were found to be satisfactory and matters of detail on the Food Hygiene Regulations were discussed with the occupier of the premises and it was not found necessary to institute proceedings.

The following table shows the number and type selling food -

General Grocers and Provision Dealers	15
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	1
Fishmongers	1
Meat Shops	1
Bakers and Confectioners	-
Fried Fish Shops	2
Sweet Shops (including ice cream & minerals)	1
Licenced premises, Clubs, Cafes, Snack Bars, and similar catering establishments	13

Food Condemned - The following tinned meat was condemned as being unfit for human consumption -

Tinned corned beef	9 lbs.
Tinned Ham	20 lbs.

Food Poisoning - No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

Slaughterhouses - There are no slaughterhouses in use in the district, all carcass meat being slaughtered outside the District.

SECTION E

HOUSING

The Local Authority is not at the present time building houses and the small amount of slum clearance which is being undertaken, the tenants only being re-housed when houses become available due to existing tenants giving up their tenancies of Council Houses.

Private development is still maintaining a good building programme there being some 68 new dwellings completed and occupied during the year.

The general standard of housing in the district has now improved considerably, of the 1,460 dwellings in the district, 811 are of post war construction, 308 being now council dwellings and there has been some 213 unfit houses demolished.

The following shows in detail the work carried out during the year under review :-

a) Inspection of dwelling houses -

No. of houses inspected for defects	52
No. of inspections made	73
No. of dwellings in which defects were remedied	5

b) Slum Clearance -

No. of Demolition Orders made	9
No. of Unfit Houses Demolished	5
No. of Families Re-housed	6
No. of Unfit Houses Closed	4
No. of Unfit Houses made fit after determination of Closing Order	1

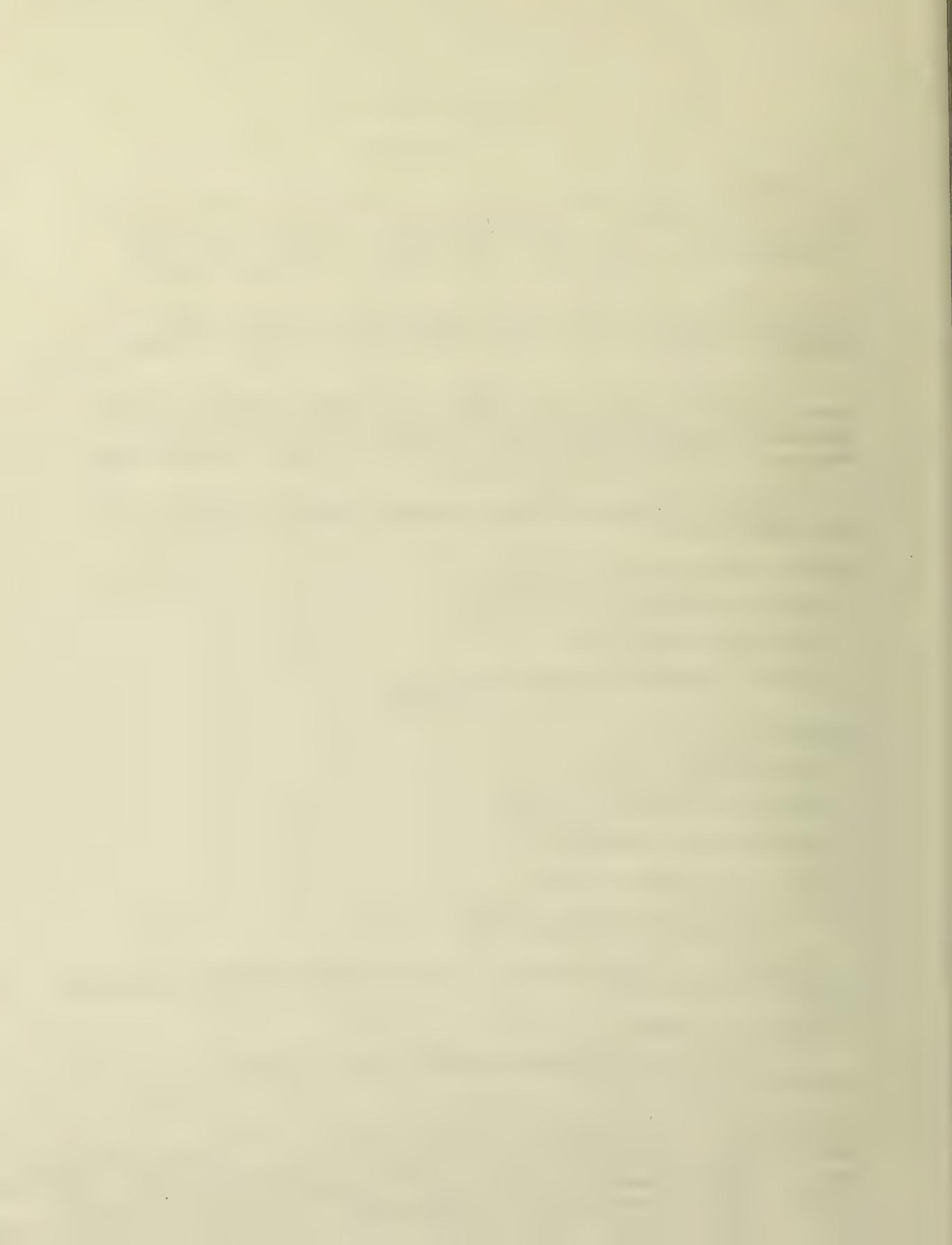
Improvement of older houses :- The following table shows the extent of this work during 1965 -

a) Improvement Grants.

No applications for Improvement Grants were received.

b) Standard Grants.

Owner occupier	Tenanted	No. of applic- ions received.	No. of applic- ions approved.	No. of houses improved	Amenities Provided										
					Owner	Tenanted	Owner	Tenanted	Owner	Tenanted	Fixed. Bath	Wash Hand	Hot Water	In- side	Food Basin.
10	1	8	1	9	1	9	1	9	9	9	10	10			



Offensive Trades - There are no premises in the District in relation to an establishment where an offensive trade is carried out.

Common Lodging Houses - None registered.

Houses Let in Lodgings - None registered.

Swimming Baths and Pools - There are no public owned swimming pools in the district. One private owned swimming pool is now being used by children from two of the Junior Schools on one day per week. One sample of water has been taken from the pool and submitted for bacteriological analysis and was found to be satisfactory.

Disinfestation - Seven houses found to be infested by cockroaches were treated during the year. Disinfestation was carried out by spraying with D. D. T. having pyrethrin added and was found to be satisfactory.

Schools - There are three junior and one secondary modern school in the district and the sanitary accommodation is adequate to numbers for the schools. At the three junior schools the closet accommodation is detached from the school buildings and it is found during the winter months, the water supply to the flushing cistern is prone to freezing, owing to their exposed position.

At one of the junior schools, a new sanitary block is being built attached to the main building which will improve facilities and overcome the problem of frozen pipes.

Washing facilities are adequate at all the schools and meals for the school children are prepared outside the district and brought to the schools in insulated containers.

Rag flock and other filling Materials Act 1951 - No premises have been registered under the Act.

Rodent Control - Complaints of rodents have been investigated and treatment carried out at the following premises -

	Type of Property		
	Non. Agricultural Dwelling- Houses	Agricultural Other	Agricultural
No. of properties inspected	34	20	15
No. of properties found to be infested by	Rats	4	2
	Mice	6	-
<hr/>			
No. of properties treated	10	2	3

The improvement of houses under the Grant Scheme has not met with much success, there being 32 dwellings improved since the Act, offering Grants, became operative.

The Authority has taken no action under the Housing Act 1964 where Local Authorities can require owners to avail themselves of Improvement Grants.

House Letting- Fifteen houses were re-let to tenants from the Council's housing waiting list and three exchange of houses was arranged.

At the present time, there are 102 applicants on the Council's housing waiting list of which 44 are at the present time residing outside the district. Forty-eight applications for aged persons bungalows are also listed, ten which are from people residing outside the district.

S E C T I O N F

Prevalence of, and control over Infectious and other Diseases

Diphtheria	No cases notified
Encephalitis	No cases reported
Erysipelas	No cases reported
Malaria	No cases reported
Measles	16 cases were reported during the year aged - 0- 1- 2- 3- 4- 5- 10- 15- 25 & Over Total 1 3 1 3 4 4 - - - 16
Meningococcal Infections	No cases reported
Paratyphoid Fever	No cases reported
Pneumonia	No cases reported
Poliomyelitis	No cases reported
Scarlet Fever	No cases reported
Small Pox (Variola)	No cases reported
Tuberculosis	No cases reported
Typhoid Fever	No cases reported
Whooping Cough	No cases reported

